



Nelba Márquez-Greene, LMFT

Nelba Marquez-Greene is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Founder and Director of The Ana Grace Project of Klingberg Family Centers based in Connecticut. Ms. Marquez-Greene has deep knowledge and a long history of service in the area of mental health. She is a clinical fellow of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy and has worked in private practice, community mental health and academic settings in the U.S. and Canada. Prior to founding the Ana Grace Project of Klingberg Family Centers, Nelba served as the Coordinator for Klingberg Family Therapy Center's outpatient child and adolescent psychiatric clinic and was an adjunct faculty

member at Central Connecticut State University.

The Greene/Marquez-Greene family had only moved to Sandy Hook, CT from Canada four months before the December 2012 shooting that took their beloved daughter's life. Ana Grace was 6 years old.

Nelba and her husband, Jimmy, have partnered with Klingberg Family Centers to develop "The Ana Grace Project." The goal of The Ana Grace Project is to promote love, community and connection for every child and family. "Love wins" is the family slogan they adopted after Ana's senseless murder. It inspired the composition of a song by the same name written by Harry Connick, Jr. This movement is one of increasing relational connections- and is improving and saving lives. Nelba maintains an online community of over 100,000 followers and an Ana Grace Project community where people from all over the world learn, share, grow and witness love through grief. She has bravely shared bits of her life both before and after the tragedy. Behind this is the belief that not only does Love Win- it will also save lives. The Ana Grace Project has adopted classrooms in New Britain that focus on social and emotional learning. They have hosted mental health conferences and professional learning opportunities – and all with a staff of one (Nelba), an army of volunteers, and a world class advisory collective that includes Bruce D. Perry, M.D., PhD. (author of *The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog*), Bill Modzeleski (formerly of the US Department of Education), Marian Wright Edelman (founder of The Children's Defense Fund), Alice Forrester, PhD (Clifford Beers Clinic) and Noel Casiano, PhD (Youth Challenge, CT).

Nelba holds a Bachelor of Music from the Hartt School and a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy from St. Joseph College. Nelba was the founding member of the Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy's (CTAMFT) Diversity Committee and has served on the CTAMFT Board of Directors. She received the 2004 Minority Fellowship Award by the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), the 2004 Distinguished Professional Service Award, and the 2013 Service to Families Award by the CTAMFT.
